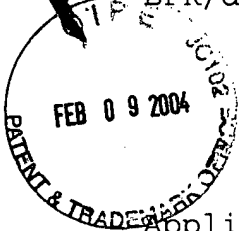


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1743
SMX 3104 (2000-108)
PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Dales, et al.

Art Unit 1743

Serial No. 09/772,101

Filed January 26, 2001

Confirmation No. 7959

For APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR PARALLEL PROCESSING OF MULTIPLE
REACTION MIXTURES

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 5, 2004

STATUS INQUIRY

More than three years have passed since the filing of this application on January 26, 2001. No communication has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office indicating action on this application.

Please advise the undersigned of the present status of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I certify that this Status Inquiry concerning application Serial No. 09/772,101 is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 5th day of February, 2004.

Debra Staas